

Ser. No. 10/020,790
Customer No. 24498

PU010302

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-17 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 12 are rejected, and claims 2-11 and 13-17 are objected to in the Office Action of June 19, 2006. Claims 1, 3, 8, 12, 13 and 17 are amended herein to more clearly and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicants regard as their invention. No new matter is added by the present amendment.

Rejection of claims 1 and 12 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Ficco et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0054750)

Applicants submit that claims 1 and 12 are patentably distinguishable over the teachings of Ficco et al. for at least the following reasons.

Independent claims 1 and 12 are amended herein to include the subject matter of dependent claims 3 and 13, respectively. In particular, amended independent claims 1 and 12 recite:

"generating a digitally encoded indicia representing the user command or status information, *wherein at least a portion of the digitally encoded indicia comprises intra macroblocks;*
modifying at least one picture from the plurality of pictures by replacing at least a portion of the picture with the intra macroblocks such that the indicia can be decoded and displayed when the picture is decoded and displayed by the remote display device" (emphasis added; see claim 1), and

"a generator for generating a digitally encoded indicia representing a user command, or status information associated with the apparatus, *wherein at least a portion of the digitally encoded indicia comprises intra macroblocks;*

a processor, coupled to the generator for *modifying*, in response to the user command, or an event that requires displaying the status information, *at least one picture from the plurality of pictures in the encoded digital video signals by replacing at least a portion of the picture with the intra macroblocks* such that the indicia is decoded and displayed when the picture is decoded and displayed on the display device" (emphasis added; see claim 12).

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As indicated above, amended independent claims 1 and 12 include the generation of digitally encoded indicia representing a user command, or status information associated with a device or apparatus, wherein at least a portion of the digitally encoded indicia comprises intra macroblocks. At least one picture from a plurality of pictures in encoded digital video signals is modified by replacing at least a portion of the picture with the intra macroblocks. The foregoing amendment incorporates the subject matter of dependent claims 3 and 13 into independent claims 1 and 12, respectively. Applicants submit that Ficco et al. fails to teach or suggest the subject matter of amended independent claims 1 and 12. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 12 and their respective dependent claims are deemed allowable, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks/arguments, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6815, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 8/29/06